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## **SELECTED DEMOGRAPHIC DATA ON VIETNAM**

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**January 1988**

*Author: Ly Burnham*

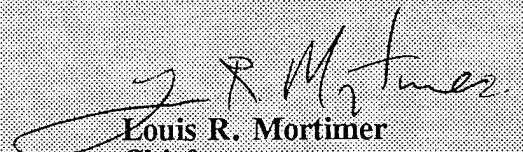
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## PREFACE

This study provides selected data on the population of Vietnam as of 1 January 1988. The statistical data reflect the total population distribution by sex, by urban and rural makeup, by major subdivisions, and by ethnic minorities (See Tables 1-5).

Vietnam is a multinational state with 54 ethnic groups, which vary from a few hundred people to over 1 million. The Viet (Kinh) comprises the majority, representing almost 98 percent of the total population. The Viet, Hoa, Cham, and Khmer live mainly in the plains whereas all other ethnic groups are concentrated in the mountains and plateaus. The Viet and the Hoa pervade in all urban areas. Prior to implementation of the national policy of integration, there were more than 60 ethnic groups. Small ethnic minorities sharing a similar economic, cultural, and social life have been merged into larger units; for instance, San Chay was formerly the Cao Lan and the San Chi, and the now combined Gie-Trieng was the Gie and the Trieng. Table 6 identifies the major area of concentration of the ethnic minorities.

Illustrations of some of the ethnic minorities are at the end of the study.

Table 1

Total Population  
(in thousands)

Year	Male		Female		Total
	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number
1960	14,770	48.95	15,402	51.05	30,172
1976	23,597	48.00	25,563	52.00	49,160
1979	25,444	48.50	27,018	51.50	52,462
1984	28,839	49.07	29,931	50.93	58,770
1988*	31,593	49.07	32,792	50.93	64,385

\*Estimated

Source: So Lieu Thong Ke 1930-1984 (Statistical Data). Hanoi: Nha Xuat Ban Thong Ke, 1985.

Table 2

Urban-Rural Population  
(in thousands)

Year	Urban		Rural		Total
	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total	Number
1960	4,527	15.01	25,642	84.99	30,169
1976	10,127	20.60	39,033	79.40	49,160
1979	10,094	19.24	42,368	80.76	52,462
1984	11,242	19.13	47,528	80.87	58,770
1988*	10,632	16.51	53,753	83.49	64,385

\*Estimated. Urban population for 1988 includes areas with 25,000 or more people. Earlier years included all areas with urban characteristics, some as small as 2,000 people.

Source: So Lieu Thong Ke 1930-1984 (Statistical Data). Hanoi: Nha Xuat Ban Thong Ke, 1985.

Table 3

1988 Urban-Rural Population Distribution by  
Major Administrative Territorial Subdivisions\*  
 (in thousands)

Major Subdivisions	Urban		Rural		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
AN GIANG	212	10.71	1,768	89.29	1,980
BAC THAI	142	14.49	838	85.51	980
BEN TRE	74	5.80	1,201	94.20	1,275
BINH TRI THIEN	344	16.23	1,776	83.77	2,120
CAO BANG	39	6.55	556	93.45	595
CUU LONG	146	7.89	1,704	92.11	1,850
DAC LAC	95	12.93	640	87.07	735
DONG NAI	343	20.30	1,347	79.70	1,690
DONG THAP	93	6.50	1,337	93.50	1,430
GIA LAI-CONG TUM	110	14.01	675	85.99	785
HA BAC	93	4.41	2,017	95.59	2,110
HAI HUNG	48	1.83	2,577	98.17	2,625
HAI PHONG	560	37.33	940	62.67	1,500
HA NAM NINH	453	13.67	2,862	86.33	3,315
HA NOI	1,341	42.30	1,829	57.70	3,170
HA SON BINH	126	6.81	1,724	93.19	1,850
HA TUYEN	64	6.56	911	93.44	975
HAU GIANG	394	14.41	2,341	85.59	2,735
HOANG LIEN SON	72	7.58	878	92.42	950
HO CHI MINH	2,645	71.78	1,040	28.22	3,685
KIEN GIANG	143	11.49	1,102	88.51	1,245
LAI CHAU	0	0.00	432	100.00	432
LAM DONG	121	20.86	459	79.14	580
LANG SON	43	7.41	537	92.59	580
LONG AN	60	5.02	1,135	94.98	1,195
MINH HAI	217	11.42	1,683	88.58	1,900
NGHE TINH	235	6.43	3,420	93.57	3,655
NGHIA BINH	253	9.73	2,347	90.27	2,600
PHU KHANH	453	30.92	1,012	69.08	1,465
QUANG NAM-DA NANG	463	25.58	1,347	74.42	1,810
QUANG NINH	198	22.76	672	77.24	870
SONG BE	128	15.90	677	84.10	805
SON LA	43	6.77	592	93.23	635
TAY NINH	82	9.88	748	90.12	830
THANH HOA	69	2.29	2,941	97.71	3,010
THAI BINH	117	6.54	1,673	93.46	1,790
THUAN HAI	158	12.95	1,062	87.05	1,220
TIEN GIANG	232	15.42	1,273	84.58	1,505
VINH PHU	127	7.04	1,678	92.96	1,805
VUNG TAU-CON DAO	96	97.96	2	2.04	98
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,632</b>	<b>16.51</b>	<b>53,753</b>	<b>83.49</b>	<b>64,385</b>

\* Estimated. Urban population includes areas with 25,000 or more people.

Table 4

1988 Population, Area, and Density  
By Major Administrative Territorial Subdivisions\*

Major Subdivision	Population (in thousands)	Area (sq. km)	Density (pers/sq km)
AN GIANG	1,980	3,493	567
BAC THAI	980	6,494	151
BEN TRE	1,275	2,225	573
BINH TRI THIEN	2,120	18,340	116
CAO BANG	595	8,445	70
CUU LONG	1,850	3,854	480
DAC LAC	735	19,800	37
DONG NAI	1,690	7,578	223
DONG THAP	1,430	3,391	422
GIA LAI-CONG TUM	785	25,536	31
HA BAC	2,110	4,609	458
HAI HUNG	2,625	2,555	1,027
HAI PHONG	1,500	1,503	998
HA NAM NINH	3,315	3,763	881
HA NOI	3,170	2,139	1,482
HA SON BINH	1,850	5,978	309
HA TUYEN	975	13,631	72
HAU GIANG	2,735	6,126	446
HOANG LIEN SON	950	14,852	64
HO CHI MINH	3,685	2,029	1,816
KIEN GIANG	1,245	6,358	196
LAI CHAU	432	17,068	25
LAM DONG	580	9,933	58
LANG SON	580	8,187	71
LONG AN	1,195	4,355	274
MINH HAI	1,900	7,697	247
NGHE TINH	3,655	22,502	162
NGHIA BINH	2,600	11,900	218
PHU KHANH	1,465	9,804	149
QUANG NAM-DA NANG	1,810	11,989	151
QUANG NINH	870	5,938	147
SONG BE	805	9,859	82
SON LA	635	14,468	44
TAY NINH	830	4,030	206
THANH HOA	3,010	11,138	270
THAI BINH	1,790	1,495	1,197
THUAN HAI	1,220	11,374	107
TIEN GIANG	1,505	2,377	633
VINH PHU	1,805	4,626	390
VUNG TAU-CON DAO	98	219	447
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>64,385</b>	<b>331,658</b>	<b>194</b>

\* Estimated

Table 5

1988 Population Distribution  
by Ethnic Minorities\*  
 (in thousands)

Ethnic Minorities	Population	
	Number	Percent
<b>HMONG-DAO</b>		
DAO	415	5.34
HMONG	490	6.30
PA THEN	2	0.03
<b>MALAYO-POLYNESIAN</b>		
CHAM	85	1.09
CHU RU (CHURU)	8	0.10
EDE (RHADE)	160	2.06
GIA RAI (JARAI)	218	2.80
RAGLAI	73	0.94
<b>MON-KHMER</b>		
BA NA (BANAR, BAHNAR)	122	1.57
BRU (PA CO, VAN KIEU)	50	0.64
CA TU (KATU, K'TU)	33	0.42
CHAU RO (CHO RO)	8	0.10
CO HO (K'HOR, SRE)	80	1.03
CUA (KOR)	18	0.23
GIE-TRIENG (VE)	20	0.26
HRE (CHAMRE)	83	1.07
KHANG	3	0.04
KHMER	900	11.57
KHMU (KHO MU)	27	0.35
MA	25	0.32
MANG	3	0.04
MNONG	55	0.71
TA OI	25	0.32
XINMUN (PUOC, PUOK)	10	0.13
XODANG (SEDANG)	88	1.13
XOTIENG (STIENG)	50	0.64
<b>SINO-TIBETAN</b>		
CONG	1	0.01
HA NHI (HA NI)	10	0.13
HOA	970	12.47
LA HU (CO SUNG)	5	0.06
LO LO	3	0.04
NGAI	2	0.03
PHU LA	8	0.10
SAN DIU	75	0.96

Table 5 - continued

TAY-NUNG-THAI		
BO Y (BO YI)	2	0.03
GIAY (NHANG)	32	0.41
LAO	7	0.09
LU	3	0.04
NUNG	665	8.55
SAN CHAY (CAO LAN, TRAI)	93	1.20
TAY	1,075	13.82
THAI	920	11.83
VIET-MUONG		
CHUT	3	0.04
MUONG	820	10.54
THO	27	0.35
OTHERS	5	0.06
TOTAL	7,777	100.00

\*Estimated

Note: (Churu) indicates variant in spelling or name of a subgroup.

Table 6

1988 Distribution of Ethnic Minorities  
by Major Administrative Territorial Subdivisions

Major Subdivisions	Ethnic Minorities
AN GIANG	CHAM, KHMER
BAC THAI	DAO, HOA, NUNG, SAN CHAY, SAN DIU
BEN TRE	--
BINH TRI THIEN	BRU, CA TU, CHAM, CHUT, MUONG, TA OI
CAO BANG	CONG, DAO, HA NHI, HMONG, LA HU, LO LO, NGAI, NUNG, SAN CHAY, TAY
CUU LONG	KHMER
DAC LAC	BA NA, CO HO, EDE, GIARAI, HOA, MNONG
DONG NAI	BA NA, CHAM, CHAU RO, EDE, KHMER, MA, XOTIENG
DONG THAP	KHMER
GIA LAI-CONG TUM	BA NA, CO HO, EDE, GIA RAI, GIE-TRIENG, HRE, XO DANG
HA BAC	DAO, HOA, NUNG, SAN CHAY, SAN DIU, TAY
HAI HUNG	--
HAI PHONG	--
HA NAM NINH	MUONG, TAY
HA NOI	--
HA SON BINH	DAO, MUONG, TAY, THAI
HA TUYEN	BO Y, CONG, DAO, GIAY, HA NHI, HMONG, HOA, LA HU, LO LO, MUONG, NUNG, PA THEN, SAN CHAY, SAN DIU, TAY
HAU GIANG	KHMER
HOANG LIEN SON	BO Y, DAO, HOA, GIAY, HA NHI, HMONG, HOA, KHANG, KHMU, LAO, MUONG, NUNG, PHU LA, SAN CHAY, TAY, THAI
HO CHI MINH	CHAM, HOA
KIEN GIANG	CHAM, HOA, KHMER
LAI CHAU	CA TU, CONG, DAO, GIAY, HA NHI, HMONG, KHANG, KHMU, LA HU, LAO, LU, MANG, MUONG, NUNG, PHU LA, TAY, THAI, THO, XIN MUN
LAM DONG	BA NA, CHAU RO, CHU RU, CO HO, EDE, GIA RAI, HOA, MA, MUONG, RAGLAI
LANG SON	CONG, DAO, GIANG, HA NHI, HMONG, LA HU, LO LO, NGAI, NUNG, SAN CHAY, TAY
LONG AN	KHMER
MINH HAI	HOA, KHMER
NGHE TINH	HMONG, KHMU, LAO, MUONG, THAI, THO
NGHIA BINH	BA NA, CHAM, CUA, HRE, XO DANG
PHU KHANH	BA NA, CHAM, EDE, GIA RAI, RAGLAI
QUANG NAM-DA NANG	BRU, CA TU, GIE-TRIENG
QUANG NINH	DAO, HOA, NGAI, NUNG, SANG CHAY, SANG DIU, TAY
SON BE	KHMER, LAO, XO TIENG
SON LA	DAO, HMONG, KHANG, KHMU, LU, MANG, MUONG, NUNG, TAY, THAI, XINMUN

Table 6 - continued

TAY NINH	CHAM, KHMER, XO TIENG
THANH HOA	DAO, HMONG, KHMU, MUONG, TAY, THAI
THAI BINH	--
THUAN HAI	CHAM, RAGLAI
TIEN GIANG	--
VINH PHU	MUONG, SAN CHAY, SAN DIU
VUNG TAU-CON DAO	--

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Note: -- Predominantly Viet



Figure 1. A Bru (Pa Ko) Woman

Source: Vietnam Courier (date unknown).



Figure 2. Co Ho (K'hor) Girl

Source: Vietnam Pictorial, No. 322, October 1985.



Figure 3. A Girl of the Dao minority (Ha Tuyen province)  
Source: Vietnam Courier, May 1986.



Figure 4. Gia Rai Girls

Source: Vietnam, No. 327, March 1986.



Figure 5. Khmu Festival

Source: Vietnam Courier (date unknown).



Figure 6. Girls of the Lo Lo Minority (Ha Tuyen province)

Source: Vietnam Courier, May 1986.



Figure 7. Tay Girl

Source: Nhan Dan (date unknown).



Figure 8. Thai Girls of Dien Bien Area (Lai Chau Province)  
Source: Vietnam Courier, No. 3, 1987.

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